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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Mills et al. )  
Serial No: Not Yet Assigned )  
Filed: Herewith )  
For: METAL-CHELATED NUCLEIC )  
ACID BINDING PEPTIDES )  
FOR IN VIVO DETECTION )  
AND THERAPY OF DISEASE )

Atty Dkt No: 5157.002

PRE AMENDT /A  
AT  
P#12  
4-1-02

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicant herein seeks to amend the above referenced application as shown below, prior to the first examination and action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.